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INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 8130  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 4172  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 3534  
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAY LIMA 3187  
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL 4307

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 000329

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: TWENTY YEARS  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [EC](#)  
SUBJECT: GUTIERREZ PARTY ON ELECTION FRAUD

Classified By: AMB Heather M. Hodges for reason 1.4 (D)

¶1. (C) Gilmar Gutierrez, a Patriotic Society Party (PSP) National Assembly candidate and the brother of former president and 2009 presidential runner-up Lucio Gutierrez, met with DCM and PolCouns on May 6, at Gutierrez' request. He showed us election documents indicating a variety of different types of irregularities. These included changes shown in pairs of printouts from the National Electoral Council website of the same precinct's results, which appeared to have occurred during the middle of the night. He also had documents indicating more votes in one precinct than voters, and different signatures and vote tallies on what should have been carbon copies of the same precinct vote results. All alterations Gutierrez shared with us were in favor of President Correa's Proud and Sovereign Fatherland (PAIS) movement and against PSP, without changes in the vote tallies for other parties.

¶2. (C) Gutierrez said he was not trying to argue that his brother Lucio had come out ahead of Correa, but that the margin of Correa's win would have been enough less to force a second round. He indicated that PSP had already presented its complaints to the National Electoral Council. Gutierrez told us about two cases where the National Electoral Council attributed the problems to computer system error and corrected them. He said the National Electoral Council had agreed to allow PSP to conduct an audit of its computer system, but would not agree to a vote recount.

¶3. (C) Gutierrez expressed doubts about the impartiality of the National Electoral Council established under the new constitution, alleging that all members depended on the Correa government. He was similarly skeptical of the validity of pre-election polls. Gutierrez said PSP had also met with the EU, but not the OAS. So far it had not taken its complaints to the Prosecutor General or the Electoral Disputes Tribunal.

¶4. (C) Comment: The documents Gutierrez showed us were worrisome. How many of the irregularities resulted from inexperience, sloppiness, or computer programming errors rather than fraud is impossible for us to judge. While correction of the irregularities likely would not alter the presidential outcome, it might make a difference in the composition of the National Assembly.

HODGES